UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/547
30 October 1997

ORIGINAL: ARABIC

Fifty-second session
Agenda items 123 and 159

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN ANGOLA

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Djamel MOKTEFI (Algeria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee. At its 38th plenary meeting, on 29 October 1997, the Assembly also decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the items at its 13th and 17th meetings, on 23 and 30 October 1997. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the items are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/52/SR.13 and 17).

3. For its consideration of the items, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General (A/51/494/Add.3 and A/52/385 and Corr.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/478 and Corr.1).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/52/L.6

4. At the 17th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Portugal introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission; financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in

Angola" which had been submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the representative of Portugal orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the word "burdens" was replaced with the words "an additional burden";

(b) A new operative paragraph was inserted after operative paragraph 7, reading:

> "8. Also requests the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to take the necessary steps to employ locally recruited staff for the Observer Mission against General Service posts commensurate with the operational requirements of such posts and to report on this matter to the General Assembly"

and the subsequent paragraphs were renumbered accordingly;

(c) In operative paragraph 9 (former paragraph 8), the words "Also requests the Secretary-General to issue a report of the office of Internal Oversight Services on findings" were replaced by the words "Further requests the Secretary-General to entrust to the Office of Internal Oversight Services the preparation of a report on the audit findings on the procurement process".

The revised text of the draft resolution was subsequently circulated as document A/C.5/52/L.6.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised and subsequently circulated as document A/C.5/52/L.6, without a vote (see para. 7).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 626 (1988) of 20 December 1988, by which the Council established the United Nations Angola

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[1] A/51/494/Add.3 and A/52/385 and Corr.1.

[2] A/52/478 and Corr.1.

Verification Mission, 696 (1991) of 30 May 1991, by which the Council decided to entrust a new mandate to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II), 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995, by which the Council authorized the establishment of a peacekeeping operation (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission III), and 1118 (1997) of 30 June 1997, by which the Council decided to establish, as from 1 July 1997, the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola for an initial period of four months until 31 October 1997,

Recalling its resolution 43/231 of 16 February 1989 on the financing of the Verification Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/213 of 18 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Mission on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission as at 15 October 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 89,144,761 United States dollars, representing 10 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Verification Mission to the period ending on 30 June 1997, notes that some 26 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear an additional burden owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola in full and on time;

5. Notes the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

6. Decides to maintain the level of the posts for the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Chief Administrative Officer at their originally authorized levels, and approves the reclassification of the post of Chief of the Human Rights Division at the D-1 level;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to take the necessary steps to employ locally recruited staff for the Observer Mission against General Service posts commensurate with the operational requirements of such posts and to report on this matter to the General Assembly;

9. Further requests the Secretary-General to entrust to the Office of Internal Oversight Services the preparation of a report on the audit findings on the procurement process in the Verification Mission to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed fifty-second session and to provide a written report to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed fifty-second session on efforts to recover losses and corrective measures taken;

10. Decides to continue to use the Special Account for the United Nations Angola Verification Mission, established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 43/231, for the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola beginning on 1 July 1997;

11. Decides also that the proposed 25 per cent reduction in the civilian establishment is not commensurate with the nearly 94 per cent reduction in the military component, and that, in the absence of adequate justification, the proposed civilian establishment should be reduced by at least 10 per cent;

12. Decides further to appropriate the amount of 155,000,000 dollars gross (150,371,600 dollars net) for the operation of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 49,975,500 dollars gross (48,202,500 dollars net) authorized by the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 July to 31 October 1997;

13. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 76,054,200 dollars gross (74,362,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 October 1997 among Member States, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of

1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B and 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994;

14. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the additional estimated staff assessment income of 1,691,400 dollars approved for the period from 1 July to 31 October 1997;

15. Decides further, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 78,945,800 dollars gross (76,008,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 November 1997 to 30 June 1998 among Member States at the monthly rates indicated in the annex to the present resolution, in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and the scale of assessments for the year 1998,[3] and subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Observer Mission beyond 31 October 1997;

16. Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Verification Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 18,926,500 dollars gross (18,667,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996;

17. Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Verification Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 18,926,500 dollars gross (18,667,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

18. Invites voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

19. Decides to keep under review during its fifty-second session the agenda items entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission" and "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola".

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[3] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

ANNEX

Monthly assessments for the operation of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola for the period from 1 November 1997 to 30 June 1998

(United States dollars)

Month	Gross	Net
November 1997	15 827 600	15 404 800
December 1997	12 101 600	11 678 800
January 1998	10 096 500	9 722 700
February 1998	9 174 300	8 800 500
March 1998	8 208 000	7 849 100
April 1998	8 118 000	7 759 200
May 1998	7 731 200	7 418 100
June 1998	7 688 600	7 375 600
Total	76 945 800	76 008 800